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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Dave Porter

Serial No.: 10/634,110

Date Filed: 08/04/2003

For: CONTAINER SECURITY SYSTEM

Examiner: Hunnings, Travis R.

Group Art Unit: 2632

Docket No.: 032234.05Porter

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

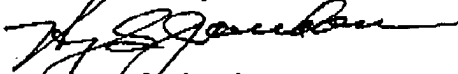
Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the following papers are being facsimile transmitted to
the United States Patent Office (fax number 1-571-273-8300) on the date shown
below:

1. Response to the Order of 5/31/2007 Regarding Appeal Brief
filed 2/09/2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 6-25-2007

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By: 

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Dear Sir:

Response to the Order of 5/31/2007
Regarding Appeal Brief Filed 2/09/2006

In response to the Order of 5/31/2007 requiring a new Summary of the Claimed Subject Matter in the Appeal Brief filed 2/09/2006, said new Summary begins on page 2 of this paper.

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5. *Summary of the Claimed Subject Matter:*

The claimed instant invention is directed to a security device or system for use primarily with storage containers used primarily for transoceanic shipping. The arrangement is not limited to use with shipping containers. The device or system includes a sensing unit contained within a housing which may be retrofitted to a container. The housing contains an internal sensing unit, an external status indicator and an internal power source. The system also includes a remote access device capable of actuating, de-actuating and receiving signals from the sensing unit.

Transoceanic containers generally comprise large metal units which are stored in volume, shipped in volume and again stored in volume prior to distribution to individual destinations.

In the various stored conditions, tampering and theft are problems. These problems are amplified as close inspection of each container is difficult, if not impossible, without moving or unloading the containers as stored. The instant invention remedies these problems.

The instant invention provides an apparatus and a method of easily and inexpensively providing individual containers without security with a security system.

The instant invention, in its basic conception, is shown most clearly in Figures 1-4. Figures 5-9 are schematic representations of various sensing conditions with various types of sensing devices with which the system may be adapted to operate.

The security system of the invention is designed to monitor the interior of a container to detect change and to deliver the sensed signal to include a visible signal to the exterior of the container. The system includes a tubular, elongated housing 50

which is adapted to fit into and through a port formed in an upper area of an end, a side wall or a closure of a container. The housing includes an external flange 57 and an internal lock collar. The body portion of the housing passes through a port formed in the container until the flange is engaged with the outer surface of the container positioning external indicator 56 outside the container and internal sensor dome 54 within the container. Collar 58 is then positioned against the inner wall of the container locking the housing in position.

The external position 56 of the housing includes visual indicators including a green light 68 indicating safe and a blue light 66 indicating breached or change in condition. An infrared port 18 for transmitting and receiving wireless information to device 46 is also located on the external portion.

More specifically, referring to the disclosure relative to independent claims 1, 11 and 17.

Claim 1 is directed to a security system for monitoring an enclosed container, generally shown in Figures 1-6. The system includes a housing 50 secured to and extending outwardly of opposed sides of a container wall. The housing includes an external first end including indicator portion 56 and an internal second end including a sensor dome 54 for sensing conditions within the container. See page 6, lines 11-26, page 7, lines 1-17 and Figures 2-4.

The indicator 56 includes plural visual indicators including light 68, which flashes continuously to indicate a secure state, light 66, which flashes only after a breach and an infrared port 18. See page 5, lines 1-10 and page 11, lines 9-13.

Housing 50 also carries a central processing unit 10 for receiving information

from sensor dome 54, processing the information and signaling the exterior indicator 56. See pages 9-11. A remote access device 46 is operably associated with the sensor for deactivating and activating. See page 10, last paragraph and page 11, first paragraph.

The system provides for a first visual signal on the exterior of the container to indicate conditions are within parameters and a second visual system where the parameters are breached. See page 11, lines 7-22.

Turning now to claim 11, the claim calls for a sensor for monitoring conditions in an enclosed container. See Figures 1-6.

The sensor comprises a housing 50 positioned through the wall of a container and having a sensor dome 54 positioned within the container and a status indicator 56 positioned externally of the container. See page 6, lines 5-22. The status indicator signals a first condition indicating secured status and a second condition indicating breached status dependent on the condition within the container. See page 8, lines 3-10.

Claim 17 is directed to a method of monitoring a shipping container and includes the steps of providing a housing 50 with an exterior monitor 56 and an interior monitor 54. See Figure 2 and page 2, second and third paragraph.

The steps include positioning the housing through the wall of the container and causing the interior monitor to sense between a secured and breached condition and to send signals in response to the condition. See page 5, lines 2-18 and page 6, lines 1-22.

The claim calls for causing the interior monitor to send signals in response to conditions within the container. See page 7, lines 1-16.

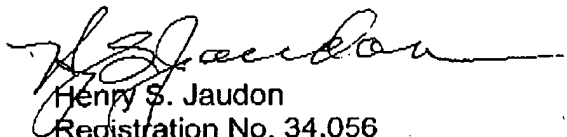
The claim calls for a central processing unit 10 within the housing and in communication with the monitors. See pages 8 and 9 and Figure 6.

The claim calls for providing the exterior monitor with a plurality of signaling elements 18, 66 and 68 and activating selected elements in response to signals from the processing unit. See page 11, lines 7-22.

The claim calls for the container in secured position to continuously provide a secured container signal, and when in a breached condition, to continuously provide a breached signal. See page 11, lines 7-22.

It is noted that the external status indicator of the monitoring system of the invention when operative provides a first visual signal indicating that the device is operative and the observed area is untampered or a second visual signal which also indicates that the device is operative and the observed area has been tampered with. The external status indicator further includes an infrared port 18 which transmits and receives information from a wireless device 46. Obviously, no visual signal indicates that the device is not operating. See page 8, first paragraph; pages 9 and 10, last and first paragraphs, respectively.

Respectfully submitted,



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